

# MISSISSIPPI DIVISION OF MEDICAID

## Eligibility Policy and Procedures Manual

### CHAPTER 200 – Income: Aged, Blind and Disabled (ABD) Categories

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#### **200.11.04C DEFINITION OF INELIGIBLE CHILD FOR DEEMING**

An ineligible child for deeming purposes is either a natural or adopted child of an:

Eligible individual or the eligible individual's spouse; or

An ineligible parent or the ineligible parent's spouse.

In addition to the general definition of a child, an ineligible child must also be unmarried and either:

Under age 18 or

Under age 22 and a student. (**NOTE:** Prior to 06/16/08, an ineligible student child could remain a "child" for deeming purposes only until age 21)

#### **200.11.04D DEFINITION OF PARENT FOR DEEMING**

A parent whose income and resources are subject to deeming is one who lives in the same household with an eligible child and is:

A natural parent of the child;

An adoptive parent of the child.

Deem a parent's income and resources to an eligible child beginning the month:

After the month the child comes home to live with the parent(s)(e.g., the month following the month the child comes home from the hospital; or

Of birth when a child is born in the parent's home;

After the month of adoption (the month of adoption is the month the adoption becomes final).

Deeming is applied from parent to child when they live together in the same household. When the child lives with a stepparent, the stepparent is not considered a parent or spouse of a parent of the eligible child for deeming purposes. Other relatives or individuals who have legal custody of a child, but are not natural or adoptive parents, are also not considered parents for deeming purposes.

An individual whose parental rights have been terminated due to adoption no longer meets the definition of "parent" for Medicaid purposes. This remains true if the adopted child later lives in the same household as the former parent.